

In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend claims 1, 45, and 46 and cancel claims 7, 68, 69, 70, 71, 73, and 74, without prejudice or disclaimer.

1. (Currently Amended) An expandable tubular assembly, comprising:
a pair of radially expanded tubular members having radially expanded threaded portions coupled to one another; and
a quantity of a sealant within the radially expanded threaded portions of the radially expanded tubular members;
wherein the sealant adheres to the radially expanded threaded portions of the radially expanded tubular members; and
wherein the threaded portions of the tubular members include a primer for improving the adhesion of the sealant to the threaded portions.
2. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials.
3. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the sealant includes an initial cure cycle and a final cure cycle.
4. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent without failure.
5. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials.
6. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450° F.
7. (Currently Canceled)

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8. (Previously Canceled)

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28. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the tubular members comprise wellbore casings.

29. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the tubular members comprise pipes.

30. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the tubular members comprise structural supports.

31. (Previously Canceled)

32. (Previously Canceled)

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34. (Previously Canceled)

35. (Previously Canceled)

36. (Previously Canceled)

37. (Previously Presented) An expandable tubular assembly, comprising:
a pair of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to one another; and

a quantity of a sealant within the threaded portions of the tubular members;
wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies,
thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and
sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;
wherein the sealant includes an initial cure cycle and a final cure cycle;
wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent without failure;
wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials;
wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for
temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F; and
wherein the threaded portions of the tubular members include a primer for
improving the adhesion of the sealant to the threaded portions.

38. (Previously Canceled)

39. (Previously Canceled)

40. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a preexisting structure; and
a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to the
preexisting structure by the process of:
applying a primer to the threaded portions of the tubular members prior to
coating the threaded portions of the tubular members with a
sealant;
coupling the threaded portions of the tubular members;
initially curing the sealant;
positioning the tubular members within the preexisting structure;
radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the preexisting
structure; and
finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;
wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies,
thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and
sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;

wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;
wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after
curing without failure;
wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials;
and
wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for
temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

41. (Previously Presented) An apparatus, comprising:
a preexisting structure; and
a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to the
preexisting structure by the process of:
applying a primer to the threaded portions of a first group of the tubular
members;
applying a sealant to the threaded portions of a second group of the
tubular members;
coupling the threaded portions of the first and second groups of tubular
members;
initially curing the sealant;
positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure;
radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the preexisting
structure; and

finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;
wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies,
thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and
sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;
wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;
wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after
curing without failure;
wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials;
and

wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

42. (Previously Presented) An assembly, comprising:

- a first solid tubular member comprising a threaded end portion;
- a second solid tubular member comprising a threaded end portion that engages the threaded end portion of the first solid tubular member;
- a quantity of a sealant positioned within the threaded portions of the first and second solid tubular members;
- an expansion cone positioned within at least one of the first and second solid tubular members; and
- a pressurized chamber defined by the expansion cone and at least one of the first and second solid tubular members.

43. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 42, wherein the inside surface of at least one of the first and second solid tubular members mates with the external surface of the expansion cone.

44. (Previously Canceled)

45. (Currently Amended) An expandable tubular assembly, comprising:

- a pair of expandable tubular members having threaded portions coupled to one another; and
- a quantity of a sealant within the threaded portions of the tubular members; wherein the coupled threaded portions of the expandable tubular members are located on portions of the expandable tubular members that are deformed following radial expansion and plastic deformation of the expandable tubular members;
- wherein the sealant adheres to the threaded portions of the radially expanded and plastically deformed tubular members before, during, and after the radial expansion and plastic deformation.

46. (Currently Amended) An expandable tubular assembly, comprising:
a pair of expandable tubular members having threaded portions coupled to one another; and
means for providing a fluid tight seal between the coupled threaded portions of the pair of expandable tubular members following the radial expansion and plastic deformation of the coupled threaded portions of the expandable tubular members;
wherein the means for providing a fluid tight seal that adheres to the threaded portions of the radially expanded and plastically deformed tubular members before, during, and after the radial expansion and plastic deformation.
47. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for coupling an expandable tubular assembly including a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions to a preexisting structure, comprising:
means for coating the threaded portions of the tubular members with a sealant;
means for coupling the threaded portions of the tubular members;
means for curing the sealant;
means for positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure; and
means for radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the preexisting structure.
48. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials.
49. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 47, further including:
means for initially curing the sealant prior to radially expanding the tubular members; and
means for finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members.
50. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the sealant can be

stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after curing without failure.

51. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials.

52. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 47, wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

53. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 47, further including:

means for applying a primer to the threaded portions of the tubular members
prior to coating the threaded portions of the tubular members with the
sealant.

54. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst.

55. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 53, wherein the primer is applied to the threaded portion of one of the tubular members and the sealant is applied to the threaded portion of the other one of the tubular members.

56. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 55, wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst.

57. (Previously Presented) A system for coupling an expandable tubular assembly including a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions to a preexisting structure, comprising:

means for applying a primer to the threaded portions of the tubular members
prior to coating the threaded portions of the tubular members with a
sealant;

means for coupling the threaded portions of the tubular members;

means for initially curing the sealant;

means for positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure;

means for radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the
preexisting structure; and
means for finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;
wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies,
thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and
sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;
wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;
wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after curing
without failure;
wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials; and
wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for
temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

58. (Previously Presented) A system for coupling an expandable tubular assembly including a plurality of tubular members having threaded portions to a preexisting structure, comprising:

means for applying a primer to the threaded portions of a first group of the
tubular members;
means for applying a sealant to the threaded portions of a second group of the
tubular members;
means for coupling the threaded portions of the first and second groups of
tubular members;
means for initially curing the sealant;
means for positioning the tubular members within a preexisting structure;
means for radially expanding the tubular members into contact with the
preexisting structure; and
means for finally curing the sealant after radially expanding the tubular members;
wherein the sealant is selected from the group consisting of epoxies,
thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing compounds, and
sealing compounds having polymerizable materials;
wherein the primer includes a curing catalyst;
wherein the sealant can be stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent after curing

without failure;

wherein the sealant is resistant to conventional wellbore fluidic materials; and
wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for
temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

59. (Previously Presented) An expandable tubular assembly, comprising:

a pair of radially expanded tubular members having radially expanded threaded
portions coupled to one another; and

a quantity of a sealant within the radially expanded threaded portions of the
radially expanded tubular members;

wherein the threaded portions of the tubular members include a primer for
improving an adhesion of the sealant to the threaded portions.

60. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the sealant is selected
from the group consisting of epoxies, thermosetting sealing compounds, curable sealing
compounds, and sealing compounds having polymerizable materials.

61. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the sealant includes an
initial cure cycle and a final cure cycle.

62. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the sealant can be
stretched up to about 30 to 40 percent without failure.

63. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the sealant is resistant to
conventional wellbore fluidic materials.

64. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the material properties of
the sealant are substantially stable for temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F.

65. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the tubular members
comprise wellbore casings.

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66. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the tubular members comprise pipes.

67. (Previously Presented) The assembly of claim 59, wherein the tubular members comprise structural supports.

68. (Currently Canceled)

69. (Currently Canceled)

70. (Currently Canceled)

71. (Currently Canceled)

72. (Previously Presented) An expandable tubular assembly, comprising:
a pair of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to one another; and
a quantity of a sealant within the threaded portions of the tubular members;
wherein the threaded portions of the tubular members include a primer for
improving the adhesion of the sealant to the threaded portions.

73. (Currently Canceled)

74. (Currently Canceled)

75. (Previously Presented) An expandable tubular assembly, comprising:
a pair of tubular members having threaded portions coupled to one another; and
a quantity of a sealant within the threaded portions of the tubular members;
wherein the material properties of the sealant are substantially stable for
temperatures ranging from about 0 to 450 °F; and
wherein the threaded portions of the tubular members include a primer for
improving the adhesion of the sealant to the threaded portions.

76. (Previously Presented) An assembly, comprising:

- a first solid tubular member comprising a threaded end portion;
- a second solid tubular member comprising a threaded end portion that engages the threaded end portion of the first solid tubular member;
- a quantity of a sealant positioned within the threaded portions of the first and second solid tubular members;
- an expansion device positioned within at least one of the first and second solid tubular members; and
- a pressurized chamber defined by the expansion device and at least one of the first and second solid tubular members.